RUSSIA'S WORK.

The Onward March of Muscovite Civilization in Central Asia.

NEW PATHWAYS OF COMMERCE.

From the Black Sea to the Caspian, Along the Arnu to China.

CONQUERING A CONTINENT'S TRADE.

In these later times Central Asia is occupying large share of the world's attention. The steady ure of British India toward the north, and the gradual absorption of the khanates by Russia, bringing these two colossal Powers, as it were, face to face, and rendering it apparently inevitable that they should come into deadly collision and finally determine the right to supremacy in the Asiatic continent, invest this whole region with a peculiar interest. It is hardly beside the point to say, how-ever, that our attention has hitherto been diverted too exclusively to the military aspects of the general question. This has been, perhaps, unavoidable, for the military aspects are primarily and most prominently presented. Unquestionably, however, there are other aspects of the case—aspects which are more agreeable to contemplate, and which are suggestive of results which will inure, not to the good of Central Asia only, but to the good of the whole family of man. Opinions may differ as to the right of England to Hindostan, and as to the right of Russia to extend her sway over the entire region of Turkestan; but no one can deny that the aggressive movements of the one Power and of the other are in the main in the interests of civilization. Let any ne compare the India of to-day with the India of 130 years ago and he will see the advantages which have sulted to the tribes and nationalties of that peninsula and to the world generally from the strong rule of the British. It is not often that the foreigner is tound willing to bestow words of praise on the British power in India.

In his recent review of the life and works of the famous Frenchman, Garcin de Tassy, Dr. Döllinger, of Munich, speaks of the British government of India as one of the wisest, ablest, most beneficent and most successful in circumstances of exceptional difficulty that the world has yet known. Looking at the vast population of 250,000,000 governed by 30,000 strangers and at the wonderful work which has been done in the direction of reform— Thuggism crushed out, sacrifices to Juggernau forbidden and the practice of suttee abolished-not to speak of the material, educational and other improvements which have changed the face of the whole land, Dr. Döllinger says:-"We look in vain for any similar phenomenon in the past or in the present." Such are the blessings which have fol-lowed in the wake of the sword in Hindostan. What Great Britain has done and is doing in India it is the mission of Russia to accomplish in Northern ments of the two great Powers in the region above referred to should be the cause of so much mutual ealousy keeps alive the sentiment of mutual hostility, and from the very nature of the case creates and fosters a world-wide feeling of uneasiness and distrist. It was natural that, the one pressing from the north and the other pressing from the south, the two should gradually approach each other; but it is not neces sary that the success of the one should be viewed by the other with jealousy or that their gradual approach should result in a death grapple. The march of events will soon bring them face to face at a com mon boundary line; but there is a reasonable prewon and willing to accord to the other the rights of possession and occupation, they will henceforth give themselves to their proper work, recognize the identity of their interests, yet in spheres apart, shake hands," as advised by Professor Martens, o St. Petersburg, and furnish "triumphant proof that common and sublime end worthy of the nineteenth It is well known that there are many men in England, some of them prominent statesmen, all of them interested in the commercial and general welfare of their common country, who are anxiously desirous that the feeling of mutual jealousy should cease to exist, and that by their joint efforts interior more effectually within the limits and under the con trol of civilization. It may take some time before these wise and humane thoughts shall permeate and leaven the respective communities, but ultimately they must prevail and the world will witness the somewhat strange spectacle of Russia and England living side by side as friends in Central Asia.

Resears New Fireld of Entreprense.

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Resears to the probable fate of Horat. At present and events now in progress in Afganistan are all but certain to result in the permanent annexation of that country to British India. Some doubt may exist as to the probable fate of Horat. At present and formany years past Herat has been an integral portion of the Ameer's dominions. If the British government concludes to amore the probable fate of Afganists and the Course Horat of the Course of British troops, done with the come the visit of the Course of British troops, done with the seaf of the say if Herat is not occupied by British to seaf of the say if Herat is not occupied by British to seaf of the say if Herat is not occupied by British to seaf of the say if Herat is not coupled by British to seaf of the say if Herat is not coupled by British to seaf of the say if Herat is not coupled by British to seaf of the say if Herat is not coupled by Herat of the British shows the say of the say if Herat is not coupled by the say of the say of young Eldred Pottinger, the Anglo-indian has taken a special interest in Herat and its surroundings, and there is but little likelihood that any stempt will be made to secure the friendship and good will of Russia will, in all probability, be left free scope north of the Hindoo Koosh, and as no other Power is likely to interfere with her in completing and perfecting her conquests it is not unfair to conclude that at no distant day she will be mistress of the whole of that region of Central Asia which was wont to be designated as Turkestan or Independent Tartary in its wideat sense Turkey the whole of that region of Central Asia which was wont to be designated as Turkestan, before it was encreached upon by Russia, was bounded by the farreaching territory of that Empire on the north, by Afghanistan and Persia on the south, by the Cappian Sea to the shores of the Eastern Coean. Independent Tartary or Turkestan, before it wa

in generally supposed to be about thirty-one feet about he level of the land the level of the land the level of the land the seal of the level of the level in the land to be eighty-one feet below it. Between the Caspian and the Sea of Arai there is the lofty plateau of the Ust-Urt, which rises to the elevation of from two to there and the level feet. The critice surrounding region is a desert, presenting some attractions to the sportsman, but offering few inducements to the Secretisman. Out offering few inducements to the Secretisman of the Corner of the Corner of the Corner of the Sea of Arai by a number of branches, thus forming a sort of swampy delta, flows out of the small lake sin-i-Kol, situated among the mountains which border the plateau of Famer and at an altitude of 16,000 feet of the sea of Arai the sea of Arai by a number of the course, and at Kent Individued 38 degrees), on one of the main innes of route to Bokhara from the southward, M. Vambéry, an excellent authority on Contral Asia, found its stream nearly twice as wide as the Danube between Peeth and Ofan, the current strong, with the sea of the course of the greates had not a course of the course of the greates had not a course of the greates had not a course of the greates had not course of the course of the course of the course of the Arabina of African which the course of the course of the

DOKHARA AND SAMARCAND.

Vambery, one of the few Europeans by whom it has been visited, at least in modern times, describes it in glowing terms. He approached the city from the westward. The first object which met his eye was Mount Chobanata, an eminence which overlooks the city. "Below lies the famous Samarcand. Although it equals Toheran in circumference its houses do not lie so close together; still the prominent buildings and views offer a far more magnificent prospect. The eye is most struck by four lofty edifices in the form of half domes, the forefronts or frontispieces of the Medresse (colleges). They seemed all to be near together; but some in fact are in the background. As we advance we perceive first a small, neat dome, and, further on to the south, a larger and more imposing one; the former south, a larger and more imposing one; the former is the tomb, the latter the mosque of Timour. Quite facing us, on the southwesterly limits of the city, and on a hill, rises the citadel, round which buildings, partly mosques and partly tombs, are grouped. If we then suppose the whole interprival with closely planted quadrate we shall have a buildings, partly mosques and partly tombs, are grouped. If we then suppose the whole intermixed with closely planted gardens we shall have a faint idea of Samarcand." As is the case with most of the old Eastern cities, the interior contrasts strangely with the exterior, and on his entrance into Samarcand'Vambery is compelled to admit that the agreeable impressions already produced were completely dissipated. The population of Samarcand has been variously stated at from 15,000 to 20,000 people. Balkh and Koondoor, originally the seats of independent khanates, have in times comparatively recent been subjugated by the Afghan chiefs, and they are now regarded as within the limits of Afghanistan. They are both towns of considerable importance. Balkh is the Bactra of antiquity. Such is Turkestan as it was and as it still is marked in most of our maps. In this description we have left out Turcomania, which lies to the southeast of the Caspian, and which is composed of bands of lawless tribes, which have made themselves conspicuous by their predatory movements rather than by any settled movements of organization. It is with these tribes, or rather with a portion of them, that Russia is now at war. It is unnecessary to say that the description which has been given above is no longer strictly applicable to the entire region. In 1873 Khiva was conquered, and a large portion of the khanate was permanently annexed to Russia. In 1875 a similar fate befell Khokan, and the whole region north of the Sir-Daria forms part of the Itussian government of Kerghasa. Bokhara has also been compelied to yield to Russian influence, and Samarcand is now to all intents and purposes a Russian city. The Turcomans have for the present checked Russia's advance; but the check can only be temporary; and it is merely a question of time when Russia shall be completely mistress of the entire region of Central Asia between the Caspian and the Chinese frontier and south as far as Afghanistan and the confines of Persia.

time when Russis shall be completely mistress of the entire regiou of Central Asia between the Caspian and the Chinese frontier and south as far as Afgbanistan and the confines of Persia.

The population of Turkestan is very various. The most numerous race are a people called the Uzbecks. They are of Tartar origin, and lead a wandering life. The Tanjicks form the bulk of the fixed population; and, it is supposed, they are descended from the aborigines of the country. In their general appearance and habits of industry they resemble the people of Europe. In addition to these there are Turcomans, Kirgis, Arabs, Persians, Afghans, Jews, gypsies and other races. The total population of Turkestan is between seven and eight millions. In religion the great majority of the people are Mohammedans of the Soonite or orthodox persuaston. The Koran forms the great text book both of their law and education, and is the universal authority upon all questions, whether of a civil or religious nature. It must already have become apparent to the reader that Turkestan is not a particularly wealthy country. It would be wrong, however, to suppose that it is without a certain amount of natural wealth. The cultivable parts yield plentifully, and among its staple products are rice, wheat, barley and other grains, together with cotton, hemp, flax and linseed. Fruit is abundant; the mulberry thrives and is extensively cultivated, and silk is produced in great abundance along the banks of the Oxus. The sheep and the goat form an important source of the wealth of the country. The hair of the goat is greatly valued. Exported to India, it is made into shawls, which are only inferior to those of Cashmere. The ass is large and strong, and is greatly used as a beast of burden. Turkestan is also the natural home of the horse. There are but few manufactures. In some of the towns, however, silk and cotton stuffs are made, and silk goods from China, India, Persia and Russias. By way of Aghanistan there is carried on an extensive caravan trade with In

Imagine that also has been impelled forward in this cultary strated. She is a great lamilocked power, it has ever been manifest to the minds of her rulers it must be by verified routes. The martines are insulated by verified routes. The martines are insulated by verified routes. The martines are insulated by verified routes of Turkestin, above with the silver of the content of the second of Europe could reach India, Caina, Japan and the could be able to tap the wealth of Persis, on the south and countered, and on the east allow would make a direct connection with China. With the prosecution of her self-imposed take she would make a direct connection with China. With the prosecution of her self-imposed take she would make a direct connection with China. With the prosecution of her self-imposed take she would make a direct connection with China. With the prosecution of her self-imposed take she would make a direct connection with China. With part to Russian rule. Behavior is a saintar control to the prosecution of the pull the self-imposed take she was a self-indicated to the part of the Russian government with the spent of the latest of the self-imposed take she haltener, for the centering signs of 110s, manifest of the self-imposed take she haltener, for the centering signs of 110s, manifest of the self-imposed take she haltener, for the centering signs of 110s, manifest of the self-imposed take she haltener, for the centering signs of 110s, manifest of the self-imposed take she haltener, for the centering signs of 110s, manifest of the self-imposed take she were all of the self-imposed take she were and the self-imposed take she was a self-imposed to the control of the Caspina and the control of the caspina and the Russian government with a self-imposed take she we

NORDENSKJOLD'S ARCTIC DISCOVER IES.

[From the Rochester (N. Y.) Herald, Oct. 18.] However valueless Nordenskjöld's northeast pas sage may prove from a practical or commercial standpoint he has furnished the reading world with a fresh and delightful sensation in the accounts he gives of his adventures during that unprecedent voyage and of the new race of people he met in those Arctic and Siberian latitudes. A long letter in the NEW YORK HERALD, dated Tokio, Japan, Septen ber 20, tells much of the story of the Nordenskjöld expedition, and from that we glean the following

One of the interesting features of the letter is the description or the simple people of the mainland called the Tschuktschi. While the Vega was trozen in the strange ship from far-away regions of which they had no knowledge was a constant rendezvous for them. They are spoken of by Nordenskjöid as savages, as their civilization is exceedingly imperfect, but the Professor is very enthusiastic over thoir social and domestic qualities. They carry on quite an extensive trade between Siberia and America, crossing the Straits on a solid bridge of ice in the winter and in skin boats in the summer. They procure furs from the American continent and barter them away to the Russians in Siberia for simple commodities. They have evidently suffered from a sort of famine during the past year, as they were more anxious to procure food from the explorers than anything eise. It is believed that they belong to the Kamschatkadaic, and Koriaks, as they differ widely from the Esquimaux. About two hundred and fifty years ago, according to their traditions, their ancestors were successful warriors, and Nordenskjöld has gathered a valuable assortment of the arms and armor of that period. The cuirusses were fashioned out of ivory and their spears and bows were of whalebone, wood and ivory. About one hundred and fifty years ago Count Pauloski, a Russian commander, was sent against them and was de-One of the interesting features of the letter is the description or the simple people of the dred and fifty years ago Count Pauloski, a Russian commander, was sent against them and was de-feated, but in another engagement they were con-

commander, was sent against them and was defeated, but in another engagement they were conquered.

These people have no government, no laws, and, as far as known, no religion. They live together peacefully and harmoniously. Women have a good deal of influence and are treated by the men in all respects as equals and with much politeness and deterence. The young women are described as often very fair, handsome, symmetrical and well-proportioned. The men are tailer than the average height of man's growth. During the Vega's stay among them no deaths and only two or three births occurred among the fashultischi. The nation numbers probably ten thousand. During all their free access to the ship not a thing was stolen.

During the confinement of the ship by ice an observatory was erected on the shore where barometric, thermem stric and other scientific observations were made. One of the officers and two of the ship's crew were on duty at that point constantly. It took an hour to pass between the ship and the observatory, and as the mercury was sometimes forty degrees below zero it was a pretty severe task.

The aurors took some of the Professor's attention. The year was a minimum one for such appearances and sun spots, but, says the writer, "whenever the sky was clear and there was no sun or moon, he saw constantly in the northeast horizon, and almost always in the same exact spot, a faintly luminous arc, so motionless as to be susceptible of accurate measurement. This phenomenon, Nordenskjöld concludes, comes from an actual aureole, or ring of light, surrounding the northern portion of the globe. Its centre should be the spot where Hall wintered, and its radius about eight degrees. The Swede opines that it girds the whole of North America with an enduring glory." It may, therefore, be called the rediant crown of the American hemisphere.

TILDEN'S INCOME TAX.

The "income tax" suit of the United States agains Samuel J. Tilden was in the United States Circuit Court again yesterday, before Judge Blatchford, for argument on the demurrer interposed by counsel for the defendant to the bill of discovery filed by the government. United States District Attorney Woodford and Assistant Attorney Clark appeared for the government, and Thomas Harland and Mr. Cuming for the defendant. When the motion was called Mr. Harland stated that the ground of the demurrer was that the assessment of Mr. Tilden's income by the United States Assessor and the payment of the tax so assessed and of the penalty also, as provided by law, was a compiete bar to this action, and that, therefore, the defendant was not liable to answer the questions which had been propounded by the bill of discovery of the government. General Woodford said that he was ready to go on with the argument. Mr. Harland said that ex-Judge John K. Porter would argue the motion for the defendant, and asked an adjournment to allow the latter to prepare some points in the matter. Judge Biatchlord set the hearing peremptorily for to-morrow morning, at eleven oclock.

The examination de bene esse of James F. D. Lamer in this suit was to have taken place yesterday afternoon before United States Commissioner Lyman on a subposa issued for the government. As a member of the firm of Winslew, Lanier & Co., and connected with the Third National Bank, where Mr. Tilden's neak account is kept, it is understood that he will be obliged to make important disclosures concerning Mr. Tilden's income during the years involved in the suit. Mr. Lanier has been til for some time, and, not appearing yesterday, the examination was adjourned till Wednesday.

BREADSTUFFS AND PROVISIONS demurrer was that the assessment of Mr.

BREADSTUFFS AND PROVISIONS.

At the Produce Exchange yesterday the markets opened weaker and the feeling was bearish, on unfavorable advices from the West and Europe. Winter wheat fell off from two to three cents per bushel, as compared with the closing prices of Saturday, as compared with the closing prices of Saturday, but on receipt of favorable advices later in the day there was an advance of from one to two cents per bushel over Saturday's prices, and the market was strong at the close. Corn was from one-half to three-quarters of a cent per bushel higher, and active and strong at the improvement. Oats advanced one-half a cent per bushel, with an active demand, and rye was weak. Provisions were much higher, active and excited, and freights were weak all through the late.

names written above.

The first French regiment ordered to try the light tunic in which the epaulettes are replaced by frogs, and also cork helmets covered with thick blue cloth, somewhat after the Prussian mode, is the lilist of the line, stationed at St. Denis. The uniform, though mere comfortable than the one hitherto worn, does not seem to be regarded with any great favor by the public. The helmet is, however, ornamented in front with the national cockade, backed by a brass grenade, while the crest is replaced by a sort of copper bolt. The peak is in leather.

The English Board of Trade returns give evidence of a revival of commercial prosperity. The returns

The English Board of Trade returns give evidence of a revival of commercial prosperity. The returns for the month of september are the most satisfactory that have been received for many months. The total exports for the month amounted to £17,402,242, increase of £840,000, or about five per cent over exports of September last and of one and three-quarters per cent over the same month in 1877. The imports exhibited an increase of £500,000, but this is not so satisfactory a feature on the returns, inasmuch as the increase is greatly due to the enormous importation of wheat from America.

Field Marshal Count von Moltke, on conclusion of the maneuvres at Strasburg, remained in Alsaca-

Field Marshal Count von Moltke, on conclusion of the maneuvres at Strasburg, remained in Alsaca-Lorraine in order to determine on the crection of the works and fortifications necessitated by the stupendous increase of the military strength of France. He is accompanied on his tour by a large suite of officers of the general staff, with whom he particularly inspected those parts which could be easily invaded from Belfort. As the Marshal's journey might cause misapprehensions in France, Count Wesdehlen, the German Charge d'Affaires in Paris, was instructed to give all possible explanation of the inoffensive character of Count Moltke's investigation.

gation.

The "Kulturkampf" in Germany has led to a deplorable state of affairs. In the Archdiocese of Cologne the 143d priest has just died without the chance of being replaced. In the diocese of Treve there are 182 vacant parishes, and in Munster the 93 parishes without priests means that a quarter of a million Catholics cannot hear mass on Sunday. In Paderborn there are 96 parishes without a priest, in Broslau 121 and in Posen 96. In the archdiocese of Friburg alone there were 500 curacies last month without Catholic ecclesiastics or any hope of their being filled up on account of the legal restrictions, filled up on account of the legal restrictions till Prince Bismarck spouted of "Freibeit' he voyaged to Vienna.

being filled up on account of the legal restrictions, and still Prince Bismarck spouted of "Freibeit" when he voyaged to Vienna.

Italian brigands may be picturesque in a romance, but they are unpleasant customers to deal with in reality. An Irisa family temporarily resident in the neighborhood of Rome had a disagrecable encounter with some of the banditti recently. Mr. Lucius O'Brien Blake and his cousin, a lady, were returning one atternoon to a villa near Castellamare, and sat down to rest themselves in a wood. Mr. Blake perceived a man crawling stealthily toward him, and at once seized him. At the same moment two other men sprang forward and attacked the lady, throwing her to the ground. Mr. Blake ran to her assistance and kicked away her cowardly assailants. A contadino, hearing the disturbance, fired off his gun, and the carabineers were quickly on the spot, but the three ruffans had fled. They were, however, arrested subsequently.

France is a happy country, says a Manchester paper. While every other nation in Europe is bemoaning over deficits and financial difficulties, her revenue is pouring in and exceeding the estimates by large sums. The returns for the month of September have just been made up, and they show that the receipts exceed the estimates by 108,000,000 francs. So that, if France continues to progress financially during the first nine months of the present year exceeds the estimates by 108,000,000 francs. So that, if France continues to progress financially during the next quarter of 1879 in the same ratio as she has done during the past three quarters, at the end she will find herself the possessor of a surplus of between \$20,000,000 and \$30,000,000 -a sum nearly as large as the deficit which Lord Beaconsfield's government have created for their successors to wipe off.

Fortune, never tired of favoring the Irish, has bestowed upon them another distinction. In the hands of one of their race is at last the largest diamond. One Mr. O'Flaherty has found, we are toid, at the Cape Fields, no tin

his chance of a colossal fortune of comparatively intile.

The palatial town mansion built, but not occupied, by Mr. Albert Grant, and known as Kensington House, London, with its picasure grounds, marble terrace, orangery, aviacies, Italian garden, skating rink, ornamental iske and islands, boathouse, Swiss chalet, American bowling alley and other appurtenances, was offered for sale two weeks ago by the mortgagees. The property is said to have cost £300,000, of which about one-half was expended on the mansion, including £16,000 for the marble staircases. The first and second bids were £50,000 and £100,000 respectively. When £170,000 had been reached by gradations of a thousand pounds the property was withdrawn, the auctioneer intimating that he would privately hame the reserve. It transpired that Baron Grant had a short time since refused £200,000 for the preperty, and much stress was laid upon the adaptability of the mansion for a club or embassy or public institution.

The Monde, the Papal Nuncio's organ in Paris, commenting on the "ograrian problem" in ireland, says:—"To explain this painful state of things we should have to go back to various causes. There is one, however, which overrides all others—the hatred of the Celt for the Saxon, the memories of a sanguinsted. It is allowable sometimes to blame them, but never to overlook their native grandeur, their heroic disinterestedness, the power of religion and fatherland. As for us, who love this noble Irish nation, and would not for anything in the world see it fall into the meshes of the revolution, we hope that its bishops, who have hitherto preserved it from the revolutionary spirit, will soon speak out and enlighten it on its duties. To them it owes its life, and only by conforming its conduct to their direction can it hope for the satisfaction of its legitimate aspirations."

An article in the Epoca of Madrid, the best informed of the conservative and Ministerial journals, has attracted considerable attention there. It declared that it was impossible to

the Sultan calls for Castilian officers to drill and instruct his troops. The Epoca asserts that the diplomatic influence of Spain at Tangiers is not on the decline, and that periest accord exists with England. It contradicts the report according to which cannon for the fortifications of Tangiers had been furnished by the British government, and says the guns in question were purchased from private individuals. The Madrid journal also retains that Spain had obtained due satisfaction from the Sultan for the murder of a Spanish functionary, and has also reason to be content from the standpoint of commercial and treaty relations. In conclusion, the Epoca asserts that no intention exists of fortifying Ceuta, which, if done, would be prejudicial to the authority of the country.

Reports from Constantinople, from independent

which, if done, would be prejudicial to the authority of the country.

Reports from Constantinople, from independent observers, continue to bring fresh litumination upon the amazing increase of misery in the capital of the Sick Man's falling Empire. From day to day it becomes more and more difficult to provide for the current necessities of the palace and the Porte. The higher officials allow themselves to perpetrate all sorts of irregularities in order to get what they can in the scramble; but the lower officials have sunk into the most abject and hopeless wretchedness. A correspondent of the Raster Nachfichien status that there are colonels and chief physicians in whose houses for months past a piece of meat has not been seen, and who cannot send their children to school for want of shoes. The trading classes are not able to meet their bills, and nothing now remains for numbers of them but to close their shops. The soldiers, who are in despair of ever getting their pay, have begun to sell their weapons, the property of the bankrupt State—if it can any longer be called a "State"—in order to procure bread.

State—if it can any longer be called a "State"—in order to procure bread.

The correspondent of the London Times at Bucharest writes a lengthy article to his journal urging the adoption of a suitable uniform for non-combatants, including, of course, newspaper correspondents assembled in Roumania in the carly summer of 1877, and seventy-six received permission to cross the Danube and accompany the Russian armies in the field. The others were not refused such permission, but they represented journals which could not afford campaign outnits for their correspondents, and who were, therefore, compolled to content themselves with the items picked up in Bucharest regarding operations at the front. Surely a body of aeventy-six individuals, representing the influential press of Europe and America, was of sufficient magnitude to merit special recognition and to be classed among the official non-combatant elements of an army in the field. I have served as a staff officer in one war and as a correspondent in two others, and, therefore, may speak of journalists in the field from both sides of the question, as in the former capacity I saubbed special correspondents and have been snubbed myself in the latter. I do not presume to lay down the law in this matter, but merely to suggest what has occurred to me during my practical experience as to the future status to be assigned to war correspondents."

THE PRUSSIAN ELECTIONS.

THE CHARACTER OF THE NEW LANDTAG-BIS-MARCK'S ATTEMPT TO RECONCILE THE ULTRA-MONTANES UPHELD-LAMENT OF THE LIB-

[Berlin correspondence of the London Times.] Example Niobe weeping for her children was a picture of

numan resignation compared with the attitude this evening of the liberal Prussian press. Journals which but a few days ago confidently predicted a victory to the combined parties of political prog-ress are now sitting in sackcloth and ashes, loudly lamenting the triumph of what they call reaction, and bitterly bewailing the dislocation of the time. The results of yesterday's final elections to the new Prussian Landtag, or House of Deputies, are now sufficiently known to show that the conservatives have won the day, and that the combined liberals, who for more than ten years have dominated the field of legislation in the North German Confederation, the Reichstag and the Prussian Lower House, have been utterly defeated and set aside. Their overthrow is better described by the aside. Their overthrow is better described by the word disaster than defeat, for hope of remedy they can have none. The following figures will make this clear. In the first session of the present Assembly the national liberals numbered 175 members, the progressists or Fortschritts party 63, and both together 243, to which might be added 9 other deputies who belonged to no particular fraction, but on whose votes the liberals could usually reckon. On the other hand, the Right included 33 free conservatives (a fraction of the old conservatives, who turned semi-liberal when Prince Bismarck required assistance to consolidate the empire), 27 new conservatives and 9 German conservatives, who might further be reinforced by 5 so-called savages or wild men claiming to vote according to the impulse of the moment so that the steady supporters of the government showed a total of only about 74. To the Centre, moreover, or ultramontane party, belonged 88 members, and to the Polisa traction 15. The new Assembly, on the other hand, shows very different composition. The national liberals, or those who prefer unity first and liberty alterward, number only about 97, while there have been returned but 34 progressists, the distinguishing principle of whom is that, while eager to see Prussia remain the leading State in the Empire, they would subordinate political unity to popular liberty. By the late elections, therefore, these combined fractions, which generally vote together on all important questions as a liberal conlition, have lost more than 110 seats, which in turn have been all appropriated by the conservatives and ultramontanes, the latter alone showing a gain of 6 new members. The "sacred city" of Cologne has returned nothing but clericals. On the other hand, Dr. Lasker, the fiery leader of the liberal lefting, has had the cold shoulder given him by his old constituents, while the eloquently silent Dr. George von Bunsen, who when addressing his electors in the summer told them in prophetic accents that Frince Bismarck's daxs word disaster than defeat, for hope of remedy they George von Bunsen, who when addressing electors in the summer told them in propheto cents that Prince Bismarck's days were numbe now finds himself in the awkward position of Scriptural King to whom Nathan related his part parable of the ewe lamb.

cents that Prince Bismarck's days were numbered, now finds himself in the awkward position of the Scriptural King to whom Nathan related his pathetic parable of the ewe lamb.

It is curious to note, also, that of the 433 members of the previous House only about 230 have been relected, so that the Chamber will have to accustom itself to the character of more than 290 new Deputies, whose opinions are but broadly known. Meanwhile, until accurate returns are made, the tollowing figures may be taken approximately to represent the various fractions in the new Assemby:—Conservatives of all shades, 170, or more than double their previous number; ultramontanes, 95; national liberals, 37; liberals, 17; progressists, 34; Poles, 18; Danes, 2; Gueip, 1; social democrat, 1; Christian democrat, 1. An absolute majority in the Chamber must consist at least of 217, so that the conservatives ulone, though more than double their previous number, are not yet exactly masters of the field, but with the aid of the clericals, whose co-operation, so readily tendered in the Imperial Parliament, can hardly fail to be offered them in the Prussian House, they will have no difficulty on all occasions in bending the whole logislative body to their will and in maxing it dance precisely as Prince Bismarck chooses to pipe. The National Zeitung, chief liberal organ, resignedly recognizes this truth and admits that the Imperial Chancelior has now obtained what he has so long aimed after—to wit, a Bismarck party, same phrase, in mass compact, and of itself very nearly forming a majority of successful resistance. Says the above named journal, "There can now be no question we shall live very quickly—in pure oxygen. There is no effectual barner in the way of making Prussia happy now that the liberals have been put aside. We look forward to events with very great and justifiable suspense." In inverse ratio, to the grief of the liberal press, is the exultant tone of all the conservative journals. The Post is willing to spare the feelings of the national

RAYS FROM FOREIGN FOOTLIGHTS. Notable among stage doings in London is the opening of the St. James' Theatre, under the management of Messrs. Hare & Kendal. The theatre has been magnificently transformed. Marble and beau-tiful tapestries, Oriental carpets, exquisite brass chandeliers, Venetian mirrors, and all that the decorative arts can give are here, and everything is in perfect taste. The foyer is a gem of a picture galorative arts can give are here, and everything is in perfect taste. The foyer is a gem of a picture gallery, under the management of M. Deschamps, and is hung with works by Messrs, Alma Tadema, Gosdall, Watts, Prinsep, Stone, T. Fae, D. J. Macbeth, Nicol, Fildes and many other artists, while there are also a variety of works in black and white, including etchings. The curtain drew up upon Mr. Val Prinsep's one act blay, "Monsieur le Due," the story of which is a simple one. The Duke is Richelieu, who is with some irrends in a gambling house, has a discussion with a young nobleman, the Count de la Roque, as to feminine virtue. The Count believes in it, the Duke does not, and the latter makes a bet that a young girl of good birth, who is coming there, and has written a letter imploring his aid, will yield to his fascinations in ten minutes, and consent to sup with him and his dissolute companions in their disreputable haunt. The girl enters, the guests go out, and then Richelieu presently "secvers that she whom he would make his victim is his own child, and hor-or stricken at the discovery, he announces it to the libertines with him. They decline to believe him, notably the Count, who, it appears, is the girl's lover; and an angry scene ensues, which is terminated, however, by the production of a letted by the girl which proves the truth of her story. This piot has an unpleasant flavor about it which savors of the French stage, nor is it relieved by the diagney, which is bald, and lacks the brilliancy so essential in a piece like this. It was admirably acted. An English version of "La Petite Mademoiselie," one of the latest of M. Charles Lecocy's numerous comic

operas, has been produced at the Alhambrs. I cannot be said to display its author's talent in a new or striking light. Every note suggests the composer of "La Fille de Madame Augot," and no always at his best. There are, however, some charming tunes and a few cleverly though alights constructed pines of concerted music, while dead of the control of the control of the control of the less description of the strength of the control of the control of the product of the less description. The plots of the pice may be summed up in few words. The action is supposed to pass during the time of the Fronds, and the heroine is the beautiful Countess Cameroni, who, for private reasons, hates Mazarin, and by her example revives the flagging ardor of the revolutionists. But the heart of the Countess is not wholly engrossed by political passion, and the adventures through which she passes under various disgnies are as numerous as they are interesting. Her faithful lover, although her political margonist, is the Marquis Mariscamp, a galiant solitier who ultimately carries of the fair prize in spite of all obstacless. The come element is represented by some citizens of besiged Paris and their vivos. Busides this brief notice of the two plays it is played and the control of the co

GREAT RAILROAD PROJECTS. Two great railway questions are touched upon in the Republique Française—namely, the line which the French government is seriously thinking of constructing in Central Africa and the Indo-European, a Euphrates Valley project. On the former subject the French paper gives a summary of the proposals and the means of executing them. It is another example of the great energy of which France is giving proofs both at home and abroad. The general idea is to make the Soudan that centre of three lines starting from Algeria in the north, from Sonegal in the west and Gabour in the north, from Sonegal in the west and Gabour in the south. The three principal French sottlements in Atrica would be thus united, and civilization would be carried into the heart of the unknown centinent. Some of the regions to be traversed are known to be fertile, and, should the vast enterprise succeed, France alone would reap the benefits to be gained by opening up new and extensive fields of trace and commerce. With regard to Gabon, a possession on the Gulf of Guinea, a practicable way has yet to be found via Ogoone, Benone and Lake Tchad, From Senegal the road is to run to the French post of Medine and thence from St. Louis to Dakar and Bamakon. The most important explorations will, however, have to be made before a plan can be adopted for the line from Algeria to the Soudan. No less than four proposals have been made, and each has its advocates. One of them would go to the Great Sait Lake of Amadghor, a most important strategical point, from fourteen to fifteen hundred kilomètres distant from Timbuctoo on the west and Sokoto on the south. Much remains, therefore, to be done. But the commission is by no means idle, Numerous sub-committees have been formed. The government has named officers to explore cer-France is giving proofs both at home and abroad. be done. But the commission is by no means idle, Numerous sub-committees have been formed. The government has named officers to explore certain regions, while the Geographical Society of Oran will send emissaries to other parts. Among the names of those appointed to fulfil these duties are M. Duveyrier, M. Soleniet and Colone! Flatters. With regard to the Indo-European line, the République Françaue gives a sketch of Commander Cameron's project. It approves of the selection of Tripoli as the starting point on the Mediterranean of the railway, which would reach the Persian Gulf via Aleppo, Mossoul, Bagdad and Monscher. The completion of this line would merely be a question of money. The construction of a railway from Tripoli to Aleppo would, in any case, be a good beginning; but the French paper considers that unless the road were continued by the side of the Persian Gulf to the frontier of India it would give England no strategical advantage. The delay in the two trans-shipments of troops at Tripoli and at Bassorah would render the Suez Canal the shortest route after all.

MURDER IN THE FAUBOURG ST. HONORE.

As the cable has already announced, two foul mur. ders have just been committed close to the Elyses Palace, Paris. In the Piace Beauvais, at the corner of the Rue Miromenil, stands a chemist's shop, which has been occupied for the last five years b M. Lagrange, a young man universally esteemed One morning neither M. Lagrange nor his bone made an appearance as usual (Mme. Lagrange is in the country), the shutters remained closed, and after some time, the door having been forced, made an appearance as usual (Mme. Lagrange is in the country), the shutters remained closed, and after some time, the door having been forced, they were found lying dead in the cellar. M. Mace, M. Delyse, Procureur of the Republic, and M. Guillot, Juge d'Instruction were soon on the spot, and a careful investigation showed that all the rooms were stained with blood and thas an iron pesite of great size had been the instrument used. Their was the motive of the crime. All the drawers had been forced open, but it is not yet known how much money has been extracted. The corpses were evidently dragged into the cellar after death had ensued. Suspicton has failen upon the apprentice, one Arnold Walder, a Swiss, aged twenty-five, who had been with M. Lagrange some months, and has now disappeared. Inquiries about him are being made in every direction, and several of his friends have already been questioned. It is hardly necessary to add that this affair has produced the utmost sensation. Further details snow that the murder must have been committed early in the evening, and, as previously supposed, that it had been carefully promeditated by the assistant, Arnold Walder, respecting whose guilt there remains not the shadow of a doubt. At about five o'clock in the afternoon he was seen looking over an account book in the shop with his master, M. Lagrange, and haif an hour afterward the latter had disappeared. This is clearly proved by the fact that a young man, a nephew of the deceased, called at the house to dine with M. Lagrange. The murderer received him at the door and remarked, "You have come at a very baltime, as M. Lagrange, and they would, therefore, drink some marsals. This they did, and the importunate visitor left the house at seven o'clock. Later in the evening the woman who keeps the kiozh opposite the plarmacy went there, as usual, with a copy of the Temps, and thay keeps the kiozh opposite the plarmacy would herefore, drink some marsals. This they did, and there murdered, and that the servant was immediately